In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

1-54. **(Cancelled)**

55. **(Previously presented)** A method for preparing a substantially pure non-adherent population of progenitor cells comprising:
obtaining a cell suspension from an animal tissue selected from pancreatic tissue or pancreatic ductal tissue, wherein said cell suspension comprises at least one progenitor cell;
treating the cell suspension with a preparation comprising epidermal growth factor, a cAMP elevating agent, and a steroid or corticosteroid; and
allowing proliferation of said at least one progenitor cell such that a substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cell population is obtained,
thereby obtaining a substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cell population that is at least about 75% pure.

56. **(Cancelled)**

57. **(Previously presented)** A method for preparing a substantially pure non-adherent population of progenitor cells comprising:
obtaining a cell suspension from an animal tissue selected from pancreatic tissue or pancreatic ductal tissue, wherein said cell suspension comprises at least one progenitor cell;
treating the cell suspension with a preparation comprising epidermal growth factor, a cAMP elevating agent, and a steroid or corticosteroid; and
allowing proliferation of said at least one progenitor cell such that a substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cell population is obtained,
thereby obtaining a substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cell population that is at least about 80% pure.

58. **(Cancelled)**

59. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 55, wherein said non-adherent population of progenitor cells is at least about 80% pure.

60. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 57, wherein said non-adherent population of progenitor cells is at least about 90% pure.

61. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 57, wherein said animal tissue is obtained from a mammalian organ.

62. **(Cancelled)**

63. **(Original)** The method of claim 55, wherein said cell suspension is obtained by mechanical disruption of said animal tissue.

64. **(Original)** The method of claim 55, wherein said cell suspension is obtained by enzymatic disruption of said animal tissue.

65. **(Cancelled)**

66. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 57, wherein said substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cells are floating cells.

67-68. **(Cancelled)**

69. **(Previously presented)** A method for preparing a substantially pure non-adherent population of progenitor cells comprising:
providing an animal tissue selected from pancreatic tissue or pancreatic ductal tissue;
disrupting said animal tissue so as to obtain a cell suspension comprising at least one progenitor cell;
treating the cell suspension with a preparation comprising a fibroblast growth factor and an epidermal growth factor; and

allowing proliferation of said at least one progenitor cell such that a substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cell population is obtained,
thereby obtaining a substantially pure non-adherent progenitor cell population at least about 75% pure.

70. **(Canceled)**

71. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 55 or 69, wherein said non-adherent progenitor cell population expresses Nestin.

72. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 55 or 69, wherein said non-adherent progenitor cell population expresses at least one of c-kit and Sca.

73. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 55 or 69, wherein said non-adherent progenitor cell population under proper conditions can give rise to cells that express a marker selected from Pdx-1, glucagon, and insulin.

74-77. **(Cancelled)**

78. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 55 or 69, wherein said substantially pure non-adherent population of progenitor cells contains less that 20% lineage committed cells.

79-81. **(Cancelled)**